The TATLER.

By *Iſaac Bickerſtaff* Eſq;

From *Thurſday May* 4. to *Saturday May* 6. 1710.

From my own Apartment, May 5.

NEVER was Man ſo much teazed, or ſuffered half the Uneaſineſs, as I have done this Evening, between a Couple of Fellows with whom I was unfortunately engaged to ſup, where there were alſo ſeveral others in Company. One of them is the moſt invincibly impudent, and the other as incorrigibly abſurd. Upon hearing my Name, the Man of Audacity, as he calls himſelf, began to aſſume an aukward Way of Reſerve, by Way of Ridicule upon me as a Cenſor, and ſaid, He muſt have a Care of his Behaviour, for there would Notes be writ upon all that ſhould paſs. The Man of Freedom and Eaſe (for ſuch the other thinks himſelf) asked me, Whether my Siſter *Jenny* was breeding or not? After they had done with me, they were impertinent to a very Smart, but well-bred Man, who ſtood his Ground very well, and let the Company ſee, they ought, but could not be out of Countenance. I look upon ſuch a Defence as a real good Action; for while he received their Fire, there was a modeſt and worthy young Gentleman ſat ſecure by him, and a Lady of the Family at the ſame Time, guarded againſt the nauſeous Familiarity of the one, and the more painful Mirth of the other. This Converſation, where there were a Thouſand Things ſaid not worth repeating, made me conſider with my ſelf, how 'tis that Men of theſe diſagreeable Characters often go great Lengths in the World, and ſeldom fail of outſtripping Men of Merit: nay, ſucceed ſo well, that with a Load of Imperfections on their Heads, they go on in Oppoſition to general Diſeſteem, while they who are every Way their Superiors, languiſh away their Days, tho' poſſeſſed of the Approbation and good Will of all who know them.

If we would examine into the ſecret Springs of Action in the Impudent and the Abſurd, we ſhall find, tho' they bear a great Reſemblance in their Behaviour, that they move upon very different Principles. The Impudent are preſſing, tho' they know they are diſagreeable; the Abſurd are importunate, becauſe they think they are acceptable: Impudence is a Vice, and Abſurdity a Folly. Sir *Francis Bacon* talks very agreeably upon the Subject of Impudence. He takes Notice, That the Orator being aſked, What was the Firſt, Second, and Third Requiſite to make a fine Speaker? Still anſwered, *Action*. This, ſaid he, is the very outward Form of Speaking, and yet it is what with the Generality has more Force than the moſt conſummate Abilities. Impudence is to the reſt of Mankind of the ſame Uſe which Action is to Orators.

The Truth is, the Groſs of Men are governed more by Appearances than Realities, and the impudent Man in his Air and Behaviour undertakes for himſelf that he has Ability and Merit, while the Modeſt or Diffident gives himſelf up as one who is poſſeſſed of neither. For this Reaſon, Men of Front carry Things before 'em with little Oppoſition, and make ſo skilful a Uſe of their Talent, that they can grow out of Humour like Men of Conſequence, and be ſowr, and make their Diſſatisfaction do them the ſame Service as Deſert. This Way of Thinking has often furniſhed me with an Apology for great Men who confer Favours on the Impudent. In carrying on the Government of Mankind, they are not to conſider what Men they themſelves approve in their Cloſets and private Converſations, but what Men will extend themſelves furtheſt, and more generally paſs upon the World for ſuch as their Patrons want in ſuch and ſuch Stations, and conſequently take ſo much Work off the Hands of thoſe who employ them.

Far be it that I ſhould attempt to leſſen the Acceptance which Men of this Character meet with in the World; but I humbly propoſe only, that they who have Merit of a different Kind, would accompliſh themſelves in ſome Degree with this Quality of which I am now treating. Nay, I allow theſe Gentlemen to preſs as forward as they pleaſe in the Advancement of their Intereſts and Fortune, but not to intrude upon others in Converſation alſo: Let them do what they can with the Rich and the Great, as far as they are ſuffered, but let them not interrupt the Eaſy and Agreeable. They may be uſeful as Servants in Ambition, but never as Aſſociates in Pleaſure. However, as I would ſtill drive at ſomething inſtructive in every Lucubration, I muſt recommend it to all Men who feel in themſelves an Impulſe towards attempting laudable Actions, to acquire ſuch a Degree of Aſſurance, as never to loſe the Poſſeſſion of themſelves in publick or private, ſo far as to be incapable of acting with a due Decorum on any Occaſion they are call'd to. It is a mean Want of Fortitude in a good Man not to be able to do a virtuous Action with as much Confidence as an impudent Fellow does an ill one. There is no Way of mending ſuch falſe Modeſty, but by laying it down for a Rule, That there is nothing ſhameful but what is criminal.

The Jeſuits, an Order whoſe Inſtitution is perfectly calculated for making a Progreſs in the

World,

World, take Care to accompliſh their Diſciples for it, by breaking them of all impertinent Baſhfulneſs, and accuſtoming them to a ready Performance of all indifferent Things. I remember in my Travels, when I was once at a publick Exerciſe in one of their Schools, a young Man made a moſt admirable Speech, with all the Beauty of Action, Confidence of Voice, and Force of Argument imaginable, in Defence of the Love of Glory. We were all enamoured with the Grace of the Youth, as he came down from the Desk where he ſpoke to preſent a Copy of his Speech to the Head of the Society. The Principal received it in a very obliging Manner, and bid him go to the Market-Place and fetch a Joint of Meat, for he ſhould dine with him. He bowed, and in a Trice the Orator returned, full of the Senſe of Glory in this Obedience, and with the beſt Shoulder of Mutton in the Market.

This Treatment capacitates them for every Scene of Life. I therefore recommend it to the Conſideration of all who have the Inſtruction of Youth, Which of the Two is the more inexcuſable, he who does every Thing by the meer Force of his Impudence, or who performs nothing through the Oppreſſion of his Modeſty? In a Word, It is a Weakneſs not to be able to attempt what a Man thinks he ought, and there is no Modeſty but in Self-Denial.

P. S. Upon my coming Home I received the following Petition and Letter:

The humble Petition of Sarah Lately,

Sheweth,

'THat your Petitioner has been one of thoſe Ladies who has had fine Things conſtantly 'ſpoken to her in general Terms, and lived, during 'her moſt blooming Years, in daily Expectation of 'Declarations of Marriage, but never had one made 'to her.

'That ſhe is now in her Grand Climacterick; 'which being above the Space of Four Virginities, 'accounting at 15 Years each,

'Your Petititioner moſt humbly prays, That 'in the Lottery for the *Baſs-Viol* ſhe may 'have Four Tickets, in Conſideration, that 'her Single Life has been occaſioned by the 'Inconſtancy of her Lovers, and not thro' 'the Cruelty or Frowardneſs of your Pe-'titioner.

And your Petitioner ſhall, &c.

Mr. *Bickerſtaff*, *May* 3. 1710.

'ACcording to my Fancy, you took a much better Way to diſpoſe of a *Baſs-Viol* in Yeſter-'day's Paper than you did in your Table of Mar-'riage. I deſire the Benefit of a Lottery for my 'ſelf too —— The Manner of it I leave to your 'own Diſcretion: Only if you can — allow the 'Tickets at above Five Farthings a-piece. Pray 'accept of one Ticket for your Trouble, and I wiſh 'you may be the fortunate Man that wins.

Your humble Servant till then,

Iſabella Kitt.

I muſt own the Requeſt of the aged Petitioner to be founded upon a very undeſerved Diſtreſs; and ſince ſhe might, had ſhe had Juſtice done her, been Mother of many Pretenders to this Prize, inſtead of being one her ſelf, I do readily grant her Demand; but as for the Propoſal of Mrs. *Iſabella Kitt*, I cannot project a Lottery for her, 'till I have Security ſhe will ſurrender her ſelf to the Winner.

Advertiſements.

WHereas a Diamond Necklace, containing 27 Roſe Diamonds, is pretended to be loſt, but ſuppoſed to be pawned or ſold, in July, 1705. or ſome Time ſince. If the Perſon to whom the ſaid Necklace is ſo pawned or ſold, will give a Sight or Intelligence of the ſaid Necklace to Mr. George Lewis, Goldſmith, at the Angel and Crown in the Strand, ſhall receive as Reward the Sum of Five Guinea's, to be paid by the ſaid Mr. Lewis, there being a Suit at Law depending for the ſaid Necklace, provided the ſame be done before the 18th Inſtant.

** A Continuation of the Practical Regiſter, in two Parts. Wherein are contained many Rules of Court, and alſo Practical Caſes. With an Alphabetical Table of the Heads at the End of each Part. And at the End of the Second Part, is a Table of all the Acts of Parliament mentioned in both theſe Parts. By John Lilly, of Clifford's-Inn, Gent. Printed for Charles Harper at the Flower-de-Luce over-againſt St. Dunſtan's-Church in Fleet-ſtreet. Where may be likewiſe had Style's Practical Regiſter.

To ſatisfy Gentlemen and Ladies who it is that would impoſe, in Relation to theſe Men and Woman's Gowns, to be ſold at the Olive-Tree and Still at Charing-Croſs; advertiz'd againſt in the Poſt-Man, with Invitation to Ludgate-Hill: If they pleaſe to enquire at any Shop on the ſaid Hill, they may be ſatisfied that there is not a Quarter of the Choice as there is in the Room at Charing-Croſs; nor can they afford ſo good Pennyworths, becauſe upon Examination, theſe will be truly found to be the Goods of Perſons that failed.

A Small Parcel of excellent Pictures, lately brought from beyond Sea, of Nicholas and Gaſpar Pouſſin, Luca Jordano, Claude Lorain, Franceſco Bologneſe, Franceſco Mola, Brouwer, Teniers, Wouwerman, Berchem, and other celebrated Maſters, will be ſold by Auction on Monday the 8th Inſtant, at Mr. Breſſans at the Two Flower-Pots, the Houſe next beyond the Stables in Somerſet-houſe-yard; where Catalogues may be had, and the Pictures view'd.

THE Sale of Looking-Glaſſes by Auction at the Engine Looking-Glaſs Warehouſe in Beauford-Buildings in the Strand, which was put off to the latter End of April, is now fixed for Tueſday the 9th Inſtant, without fail; where Attendance will be daily given, and Catalogues delivered out every Day till the Day of Sale, the Trade being left off, and the Houſe to be lett, and no more of the Engine-Work to be had after this Sale. Note: Moſt of the Glaſſes that were unfitted by Reaſon of the Time of the firſt Sale being prolonged, are now fitted up in curious Frames of ſeveral Sorts. This will be the fineſt Show of great Glaſs, Tea-Tables, China-Wares, Fans, Indian Screens, and ſeveral other Rarities, that was ever ſhewn in England. They may be viewed every Day till the Time of Sale.

** New Muſick juſt publiſh'd, Six Engliſh Cantata's for a Voice, and Inſtruments; compoſed by Mr. J. C. Pepuſh. Note, this is the firſt Collection of this Kind, the whole being corrected by the Author, and engraven in a fair Character. Alſo the Monthly Mask of Vocal Muſick, or the neweſt Songs made for the Theatres and other Occaſions, for April. Printed for J. Walſh, Servant in Ordinary to Her Majeſty, and P. Randa, at the Harp and Hautboy in Catherine-ſtreet, near Somerſet-Houſe in the Strand, and J. Hare at the Viol and Flute in Cornhill near the Royal Exchange.

** Cantici Solomonis Paraphraſis Poetica: Arthuro Jonſtono Scoto, Medico Regio, Auctore. Veneunt apud P. Vaillant in the Strand, J. Baker in Pater-noſter-Row, G. Strahan in Cornhil, and R. Smith in Exeter-Change. Pr. 1 s.

** Lately publiſhed, The London new Method and Art of teaching Children to ſpell and read; ſo as they may, without the Help of any other Book, read the Bible in leſs than Twelve Months. Printed for E. Parker at the Bible and Crown in Lombard-ſtreet. Price bound 6 d.

** Juſt publiſhed, A Meditation upon a Broomſtick, Price 6 d. Sir R. Blackmore's Original, Riſe, and Improvement of the Kit-Cat-Club, 1 s. Boileau's Lutrin, with ſome Account of his Writings. By N. Rowe Eſq; 2 s. 6 d. A new Edition of Petronius Arbiter, in a neat Pocket Volume, on an Elzevir Letter, 1 s. 6 d. Mr. Hoadly's Defence of the Foundation of the preſent Government, 1 s. 6 d. The correct Edition of Muſcipula, by Mr. Holdworth, 6 d. Rocheſter and Roſcommon's Works, 5 s. Printed for E. Curll, at the Dial and Bible againſt St. Dunſtan's Church in Fleet-ſtreet.

I Ellin Newcom, living with my Lady Holt, in Bedford-Row, London, having had the Stone and Cholick for Four Years laſt paſt; and tho' I made Uſe of eminent Advice, and took a great many Medicines, without the leaſt Advantage, I at laſt happily heard of Mr. J. Moore, Apothecary, at the Peſtle and Mortar in Abchurch-lane near Lombard-ſtreet, London; and I have never been troubled with my former Illneſs ſince the taking his Medicines, but continue in perfect Health; and for the Good of the Publick, I deſire this may be publiſhed. Witneſs my Hand, April 14. 1710. Eleanor Newcom.

FOR Sale by Auction, on Thurſday the 11th Inſtant, againſt the Mitre-Tavern in Fenchurch-ſtreet, at Nine in the Morning, the Houſhold-Goods and Pictures late belonging to Sir Tho. Cook and Lady Green, conſiſting of fine Velure, Damark, Mohair, Wrought, Silk, and Stuff Beds, with Down and Feather Beds; fine India Cabinets, Screens, Tapiſtry Hangings, Carpet Chairs, Linen, Pewter, Braſs, and a Mourning Chariot, &c. Catalogues to be had, and the Goods to be ſeen, at the Place of Sale, on Monday, Tueſday, and Wedneſday, before the Sale. Note, The Houſe is to be lett.

Sold by *John Morphew* near *Stationers-Hall*; where *Advertiſements* are taken in.